



ON THE BEAT
Suzanne Kreiter
GLOBE STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OCT. 4, 2:45 P.M., DORCHESTER: An attorney for the owner of a house on Bellevue Street called police to report trespassers. Responding to the call, Boston Police Officer Paul Dunlop (right) and his partner, Officer Charlie Bicker, found a couple with their car and luggage on the porch. The couple told the officers they had been evicted from the house one week earlier and were staying at the Salvation Army Night Center. They said they had returned to wait for the mail, which they expected would contain the woman's child-support check from the state Department of Revenue. After the mail carrier arrived with the check, the officers pointed out an eviction notice attached to the front door and told the couple to meet the mail carrier down the street in the future.

No ID yet on body found in Tolland

TOLLAND — State Police were still trying yesterday to identify the body of a woman found dumped near the entrance to Tolland State Forest.

An autopsy completed yesterday offered investigators few clues, police said.

"We're still very perplexed as to who she is," said Trooper Michael Joshy.

Police would not release the cause of death but said they were treating the case as a homicide.

The body was found Friday afternoon at a timber dumping station near the main entrance to the forest. Police believe the body had been left at the park four days earlier.

The state forest is located about 10 miles from the Connecticut line. Officials did not say how the woman was killed and did not say whether the death was connected to the slayings of 19 women in Connecticut during the past 10 years.

Police described the woman as white, between 35 and 40 years of age, between 5 feet 2 inches and 5 feet 4 inches in height, and of medium build.

She was wearing maroon eyeglasses, a gray sweatshirt with a red hood and a diamond-shaped tag with the word "Trends" printed in it, blue jeans, navy blue and gold shoes and a long-sleeved burgundy jersey.

Police are asking anyone with information about the woman to call the Russell State Police barracks at (413) 542-4511.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

E. Boston man fatally shot at Dorchester after-hours party

By Tatiana M. With
and Brian MacFarlane
GLOBE STAFF WRITERS

Jorge Luis Medina and Jose Manuel Melendez had a little partying in mind Saturday. So they danced long into the night at a Hispanic nightclub in Roxbury.

They weren't really to call it quits when the club announced last night. Instead, the two East Boston men drove to an "after hours" place, a two-floor apartment on Norfolk Street in Dorchester, where they could buy alcohol and dance until dawn.

Before dawn, one of them was dead. Medina, 35, was shot around 2:30 a.m. by a man he had asked to leave the party 10 minutes earlier. Medina, who arrived at the unmarked apartment before most of the partygoers, had been asked by the woman to guard the door. Melendez

then about 70 people were drinking and dancing, but problems arose when a guest was interrogated by the hostess as a trespasser. She asked Medina to get the man.

"The guy went out, and I thought the problem was done," Melendez said.

Minutes later, Medina asked Melendez to look him up.

Melendez said he followed Medina from the second floor to the ground-level porch, where as many as six gamblers were fired at them from behind a parked car. One of the shots shattered the porch glass and struck Medina in the back as he tried to turn for cover.

"People were running everywhere," Melendez said. "Some hid in the closets. Some were screaming, and I threw a bottle at the [gunman] and started to chase after him. But there were people everywhere, and I lost him from my sight."

Melendez then ran back inside to help his friend, who had staggered into the living room and fallen face-

'People were running everywhere. Some hid in the closets. Some were screaming, and I threw a bottle at the [gunman] and started to chase after him.'

JOSÉ MANUEL MELÉNDEZ, friend of victim

up on the floor.

"I thought he was in shock," Melendez said of his sister's boyfriend.

"I checked to see if there were any bullet holes, and there wasn't any blood. I thought it was a heart attack or something."

A woman then moved Medina and found a bullet hole, which Melendez said was from a .22-caliber handgun.

Medina was pronounced dead at Boston City Hospital at 4:07 a.m.

The assailant, who Melendez said was wearing a red windbreaker, fled

in a red sports car with front-end damage, authorities said. Late yesterday, police were reportedly focusing on an unnamed suspect.

Melendez said that neither he nor Medina knew the gunman or the house.

Medina, who grew up in Jamaica Plain, often predicted that he would meet a violent death, friends said.

He always did say that if he was going to die, he was going to die from a bullet," said friend Conrad Waters. "If he was going to go, someone would have to shoot him for

him to go."

Others described Medina, the youngest of five children, as someone who talked big and had problems with his temper but was well liked. "He was never in a gang but pretended to be in one," Waters said.

Medina's sister, Carmen Torres of Chelsea, said her brother often had "little fights" but would avoid serious altercations.

Waters said Medina seemed to be reacting in his temper to anticipation of the birth of his child by Melendez's sister. He had been working most recently for a plasterer, and had prepared applications for additional employment, Melendez said.

"He always tried to have money and jobs," Melendez said. "He was always working and looking."

The victim's mother, Catalina Medina of Chelsea, said her son had been working on weekends and was staying home more to care for his pregnant girlfriend.



JORGE LUIS MEDINA
Asked to direct guest

THE LOTTERY	
Sunday number	6580
MIDWINTER DRAWING (based on \$1 bet)	
CLOTTED	
All 4 digits	\$4,726
First or last 3	\$662
Any 2 digits	\$57
Any 1 digit	\$6
ANY OTHER	
All 4 digits	\$197
First 3 digits	\$110
Last 3 digits	\$110
MIDWINTER	
Oct. 7	9 10 14 18 27 37
Jackpot: \$1,202,250	There were winners
BONUS BONNIE	
Game 36, Oct. 5-6	081040
PREVIOUS MASS. DRAWINGS	
Saturday	9540
Friday	1768
Thursday	1428
Wednesday	7218
Tuesday	7477
SUNDAY WINNERS	
AROUND NEW ENGLAND	
Black Island	\$308
Saturday's Powerball	\$508
2, 10 15 31 Powerball 29	Jackpot: \$5.5 million; There was no jackpot winner
Connecticut	4-digit: 2267
3-digit: 962	4-digit: 1168
St. Maine, N.H., Vermont	3-digit: 962

Antiviolence group launches 3d gun buy-back program

By Susan E. Noff
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

On August 25, 1996, 29-year-old Chris King was shot to death at the Banker Hill Playground in Charlestown. Five years later his 27-year-old brother, Jay, was slain on Terminus Street behind the Charlestown High School athletic facility.

Nine-year-old Arianne Giff, gun of Boston, was shot to death on his birthday last Halloween, truck-mounted easily stuffed in his pockets. And in June, Jackie Bishop, 35, of Mattapan was killed by a gunman who drove past her Norfolk Street home unloading a hail of bullets.

These are the names of just a few of the hundreds of Boston residents who have died from gunshot wounds over the past few years. Their deaths have left grieving loved ones asking the question: How do we stop the violence?

For the third straight year, Citizens for Safety is poised to launch an assault on gun-related deaths with its Hands Without Guns buy-back program, which brings law-abiding guns through Oct. 31.

During the 22-day period, the

'Losing someone to gunfire is the hardest thing in the world. We know that the buy-back won't solve the problem, but it can help.'

Michael MacDonald, director of Hands Without Guns

group will pay \$20 for any working handgun or assault gun.

"Our mission is to create an environment in Boston that will allow Boston youth to live to be able to graduate from high school," said Marian Jones, executive director of Citizens for Safety. "This is one component of a comprehensive approach to eradicating violence in Boston."

Michael MacDonald, director of Hands Without Guns, has lost three brothers, two to gunfire.

"Losing someone to gunfire is the hardest thing in the world," MacDonald said. "We know that the buy-back won't solve the problem, but it can help."

Citizens for Safety has more than 1,000 members. It has raised

\$100,750 to buy 2,197 firearms during buy-back programs in 1994 and 1995. The money is all privately raised.

"People think it is expensive to buy back guns, but when you compare it to the cost of gun-related death and injury, it is not expensive at all," MacDonald said.

The National Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta estimates the average cost of one fatality due to a firearm costs the public \$87,000, MacDonald said.

"Those of us who have lost people know it's not just a gun," he said. "There is a murderer, and there are negative environments and many things that add to the problem, but the physical presence of guns is an issue."

Sandy King, who lost her sons, Jay and Chris, to bullets, said she is tired of the violence.

"How much is your kid's life worth?" she asked. "There are far too many guns on the street. Buses are killing babies. No one wants to take a rifle out of a hunter's hand. What I do want is to take guns out of kids' hands."

King said she will purchase one gun in each of her son's names. "I think it's one way that gun victims can speak out and take some control," she said.

Mary Adams' son, Michael, 31, was shot dead on May 1, 1994. Since then she has been involved with several programs designed to help stop the violence.

"So many young kids have had guns in their homes or have had a family member or friend who has been shot," Adams said from her Roxbury home. "I was amazed. It is really sad because we are not hearing any legacy for the younger generation. It is hard to get the message across that it is past time to lay down the weapons."

While none of the Citizens for Safety members believe the gun buy-back program will end the violence, they all say it is a step in the

right direction.

"You have to start somewhere," Adams said. "If we can get people to realize that they are killing the future, if we can stop just one death, it's worth it."

MacDonald said that 40 percent of all guns used in street crimes are stolen from the homes of law-abiding citizens.

"I would say to people to just get rid of the guns," MacDonald said. "The key component here is four. We need to find other ways of dealing with our fears rather than arming ourselves. Too many people's babies are dying."

Working handpans and assault guns can be exchanged at any Boston police station for a \$60 voucher that is redeemable at any Bank of Boston. Anonymous is guaranteed by Boston police, and amnesty is secured by Suffolk District Attorney Ralph C. Martin Jr.

All guns must be given directly to an on-duty Boston police officer. They must be empty and in a clear plastic bag inside another container. No identification will be requested by the police or the bank. For information, call (617) 542-HANDS.